

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10

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USNMR SHAPE

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NOFORN

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: BILATERAL DISCUSSION WITH SOVIET DEP REP OF APRIL 18,
1978 ON DATA DISCUSSION

REF: MBFR VIENNA 231

1. AFTER INFORMAL SESSION OF APRIL 18, 1978, SOVIET
DEPREP TOLD US REP THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO IMPLEMENT US
REP'S SUGGESTION, MADE IN PREVIOUS DAY'S DISCUSSION, THAT THE
TWO SIDES CLARIFY WHETHER THE EAST IS APPLYING THE DEFINITION
OF ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY MANPOWER IN A WAY DIFFERENT FROM
THE WEST. HE SAID HE WAS UNSURE AS TO WHAT WAS THE MOST
PRACTICAL METHOD OF IMPLEMENTATION.

2. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE WEST ASK THE EAST WHETHER OR
NOT IT HAD COUNTED SPECIFIC TYPES OF UNITS WHICH THE WEST
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BELIEVED SHOULD BE COUNTED.

3. US REP REPLIED THAT THE EAST'S ANSWERS IN THE
DEFINITION DISCUSSION IN THE SPRING OF 1977 APPEARED TO
INDICATE THAT IT HAD COUNTED ALL THE CATEGORIES OF UNITS
WHICH THE WEST THOUGHT SHOULD BE INCLUDED. HE WAS
CONCERNED THAT IF THE WEST ASKED ABOUT A SERIES OF SPECIFIC

UNITS AND THE EAST GAVE THE SAME ANSWERS, THE SITUATION WOULD BECOME WORSE RATHER THAN BETTER. HE SAID THAT, PARTICULARLY IN THE CASE OF THE POLES, IT SHOULD BE CLEAR TO THE EAST WHAT TYPES OF UNITS THE EAST MIGHT HAVE EXCLUDED AND THE WEST INCLUDED.

4. SOVIET DEPREP SAID HE UNDERSTOOD US REP'S CONCERN. HE SAID THAT THE EAST MIGHT ASK THE WEST ABOUT WHETHER IT CONSIDERED CERTAIN TYPES OF UNITS OR CATEGORIES SHOULD BE INCLUDED AND THE WEST MIGHT ASK THE EAST ABOUT OTHER TYPES. HE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THE WEST MIGHT ASK ABOUT POLISH PART-TIME TERRITORIAL FORCES PERSONNEL. US REP SAID THAT THE WEST HAD MADE CLEAR THAT IT HAD EXCLUDED THIS CATEGORY AND, ACCORDINGLY, ASKING ABOUT IT WOULD NOT ADVANCE THE SITUATION. SOVIET DEPREP REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THIS AND HAD MERELY MENTIONED THIS CATEGORY AS ILLUSTRATIVE.

5. US REP SAID HE WOULD CONSIDER SOVIET DEPREPS SUGGESTION WHETHER BOTH SIDES MIGHT ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT SPECIFIC TYPES OF UNITS. US REP SUGGESTED THAT AFTER THE RECESS, US AND SOVIET REPS MIGHT DISCUSS BILATERALLY THE MOST PRODUCTIVE METHOD OF IMPLEMENTING THE CLARIFICATION OF HOW THE TWO SIDES HAD APPLIED THE AGREED DEFINITION OF MILITARY MANPOWER.

6. SOVIET DEPREP AGREED. HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE SECRET

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NECESSARY TO QUANTIFY THE EFFECT OF ANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN INTERPRETATIONS BEFORE AGREED INTERPRETATIONS COULD BE REACHED.

7. US REP REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. HE SAID THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF STARTING ON AN UNQUANTIFIED BASIS INITIALLY IN CASE THIS WOULD MAKE IT EASIER.

8. SOVIET DEPREP ASKED WHETHER SOVIET REPS COULD REPORT US REPS DISCUSSION OF PHASE I REDUCTION NUMBERS AND THE 40,000 TO 50,000 DISCREPANCY FIGURE.

9. US REP SAID THAT HE HAD INTRODUCED THIS COMPUTATION ONLY TO EXPLAIN WHY ACCEPTANCE BY THE EAST OF A 29,000/68,000 PHASE I REDUCTION WAS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE CONCEPT THAT ANY AGREEMENT WAS CONDITIONAL ON REACHING AN AGREEMENT ON MANPOWER DATA. HE SAID HE HAD NOT INTENDED ANY IMPLICATION THAT THE DISPARITY WAS LESS THAN 150,000. WITH THIS UNDERSTANDING, SOVIET REPS COULD REPORT THE DISCUSSION.
RESOR

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